

HEALTH AND MEDICAL AREA COMMAND SITUATION REPORT

PUBLIC HEALTH – SEATTLE AND KING COUNTY

REPORT #: 8	OPERATIONAL PERIOD: 11/3/09 – 11/9/09	DATE: 11/6/09	TIME: 15:00
Incident Name/Incident Type: H1N1 Influenza Response and Howard Hanson Dam/Green River Planning			MISSION #: H1N1: 09-2887 Howard Hanson Dam: 09-2821
Locations/Areas Affected: H1N1: King County; Howard Hanson Dam/Green River: City of Auburn, City of Kent, City of Renton, City of Tukwila, Unincorporated King County			
HEALTH AND MEDICAL AREA COMMAND CENTER (ACC) STATUS			
ACC Activation Status:	<u>ACTIVATED</u>		
Location:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary Location <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Site:		
Hours of Operations:	<input type="checkbox"/> 24 Hour Ops.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Days/Hours: Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm	Off Hours Emergency Contact 24/7: Public Health Duty Officer

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATIONS/DECLARATIONS

JURISDICTIONS	NAME OF JURISDICTION	DATE	COMMENTS
County Proclamation:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Thursday, 9/10/09	The King County Executive proclaimed an emergency regarding potential flooding in the Green River Valley as a result of problems with the Howard Hanson Dam
Washington State Proclamation:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Federal Health Declaration:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Sunday, 4/26/2009	The Department of Health and Human Services issued a nationwide public health emergency declaration in response to recent human infections with a newly discovered swine influenza A (H1N1) virus
National Emergency Declaration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Saturday, 10/24/09	The President declared a National Emergency for H1N1 Influenza through the National Emergencies Act, which allows healthcare facilities to petition for Social Security Act Section 1135 waivers for specific needs (i.e. waivers for specific EMTALA, HIPAA or CMS regulations).
Federal Disaster Declaration:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

RESPONSE GOALS

H1N1

- Protect the public's health by minimizing the spread of H1N1 influenza in the community
- Achieve situational awareness about flu activity in King County and impacts on the healthcare system and the broader community
- Support the informational and medical resource needs of healthcare partners
- Maintain consistent and timely public information about H1N1 flu and response activities
- Maximize availability of H1N1 vaccine to protect the public's health
- Maintain continuity of Public Health operations

Green River

- Mitigate the impact of flooding to healthcare partners and Public Health sites
- Establish plans to assist with evacuation and sheltering of the medically fragile
- Maintain consistent and timely messaging to the public and partners about the threat of the Green River flooding and impacts to the healthcare system
- Mitigate and monitor the Environmental Health impacts of a flood

SUMMARY OF EVENT

CURRENT H1N1 SITUATION

Several indicators continue to show rising influenza activity in King County.

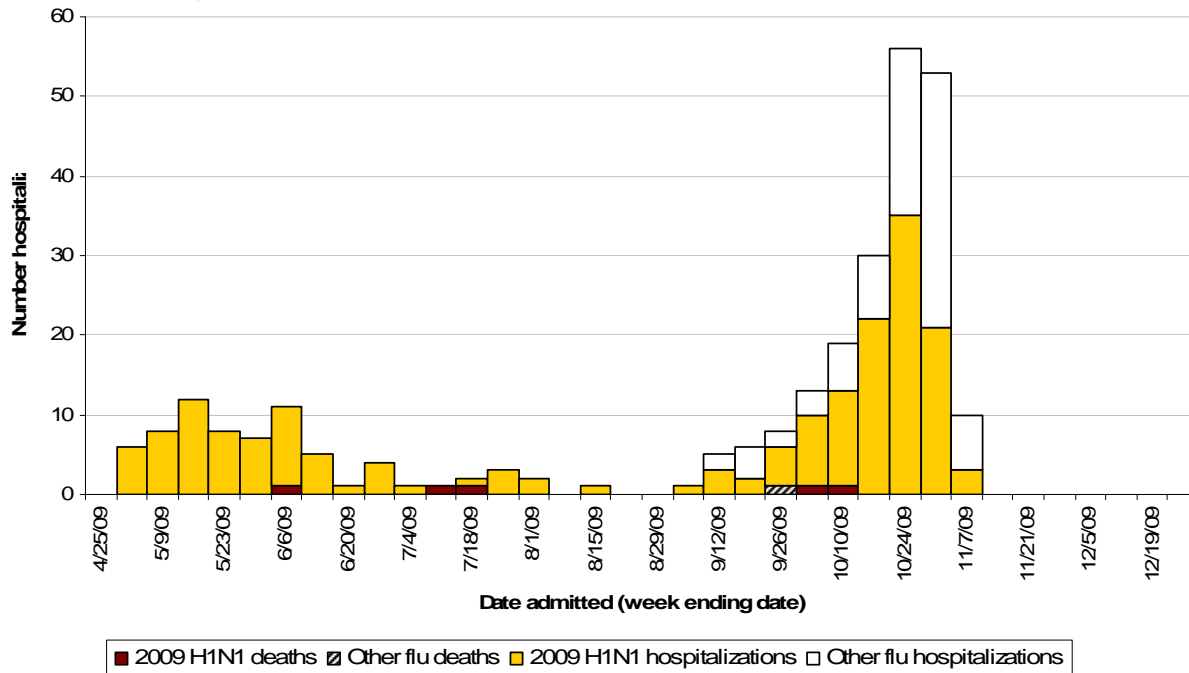
- Emergency department visits for influenza-like illness have been increasing since the beginning of September and exceed levels observed during the spring H1N1 outbreak. ED visit counts are highest among those ages 5-17 and 18-44.
- Hospital admissions for 2009 H1N1 flu also currently exceed levels seen at the height of the spring outbreak; the number of reported hospitalizations remained relatively stable from week 42 to 43. One confirmed death due to 2009 H1N1 was reported this week in a woman who had been hospitalized since mid-October.
- The number of specimens submitted and number testing positive for flu through our outpatient surveillance system decreased slightly during week 43 compared to the previous week.
- Local hospital laboratories have reported increased requests for rapid flu testing, and an increased proportion testing positive for flu for the past several weeks.
- The proportion of deaths due to pneumonia and influenza has been below the epidemic threshold since mid-September.
- Several long-term care facilities have reported cases of influenza-like illness in their facilities.
- School absenteeism has been increasing among elementary aged children in recent weeks and remains relatively stable among middle and high school aged children.

2009-2010 Influenza Season (starting October 5th):

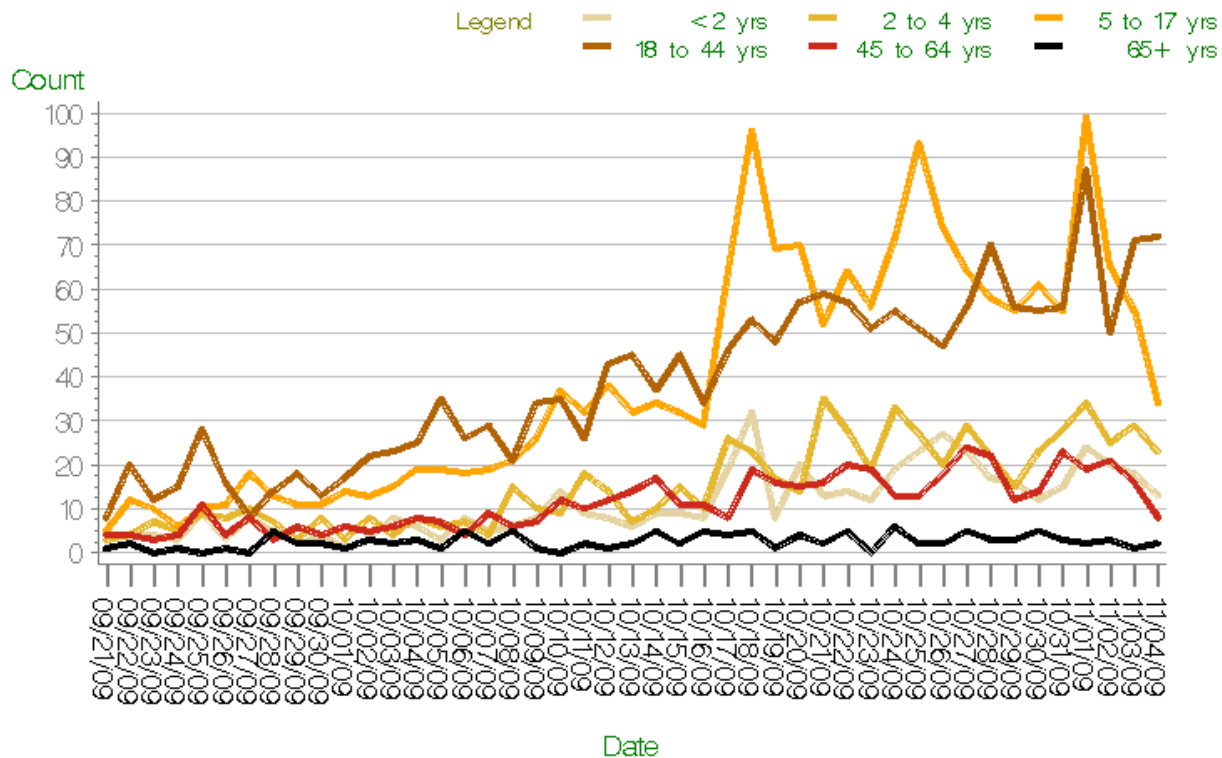
2009 H1N1 Hospitalizations:	105	Hospitalizations, non-H1N1 or not tested:	75
2009 H1N1 Deaths:	2	Deaths, non-H1N1 or not tested:	1

Influenza Hospitalizations in King County

Prior to 9/16/09 only confirmed H1N1 hospitalizations were notifiable, after 9/16/09 all lab confirmed hospitalizations became notifiable



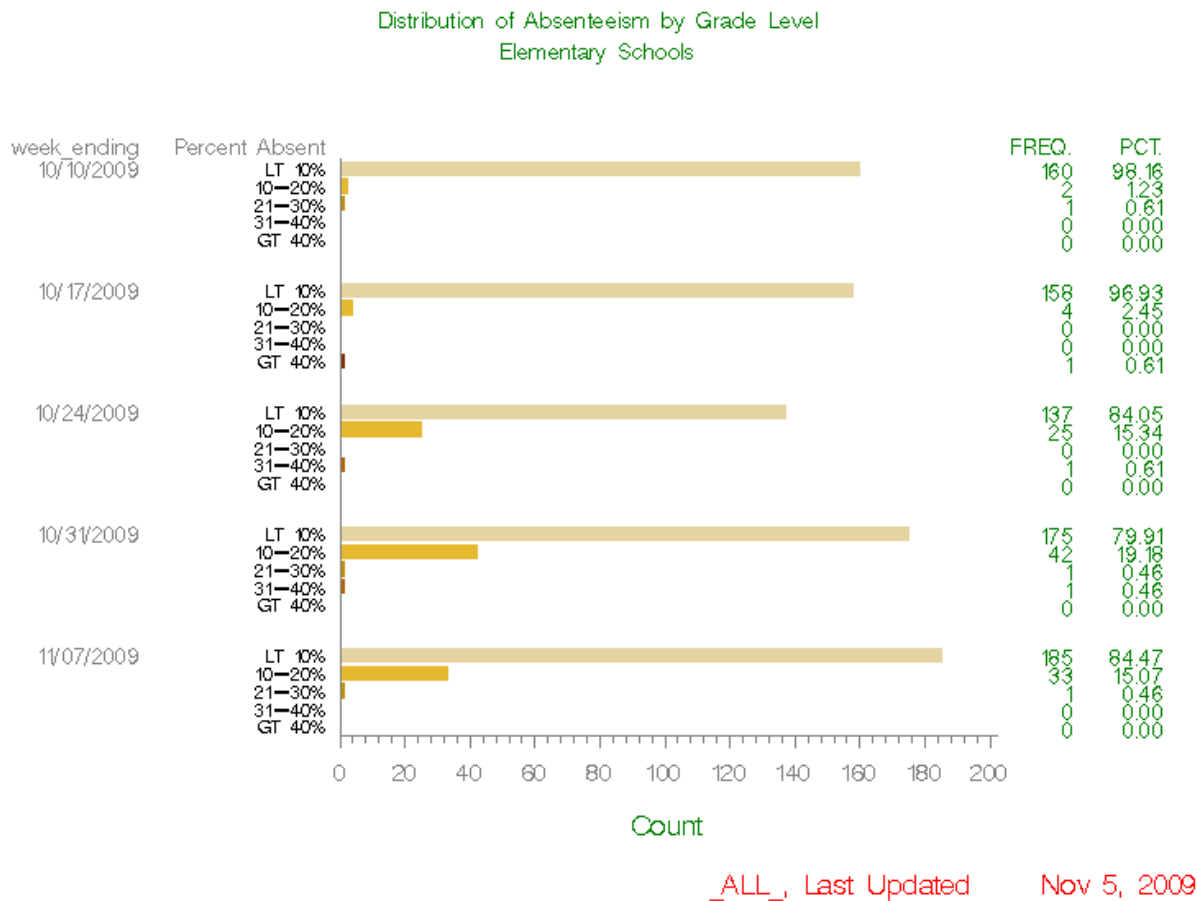
Daily Count of ED Visits for Influenza—Like Illness By Age Group



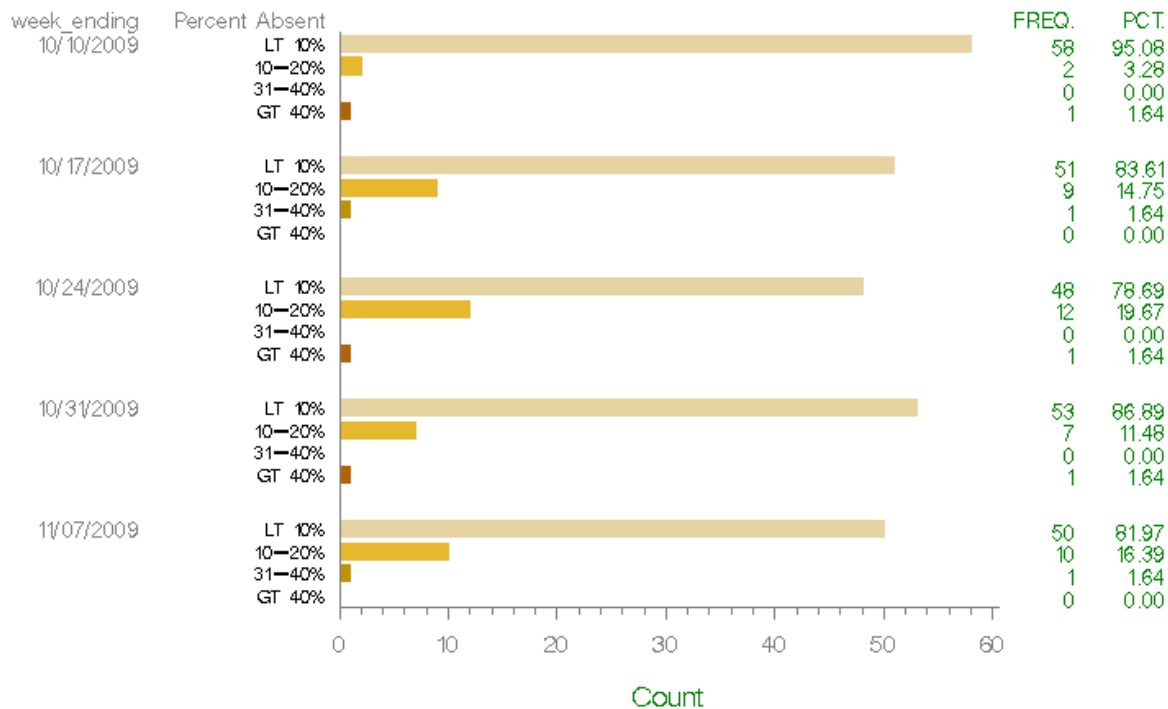
ALLHOSPITALS, Last Updated

Nov 5, 2009

Seventeen of 19 King County school districts are reporting absenteeism through our automated system. Absenteeism levels for middle and high schools were relatively stable for week 43 (ending 10/31) compared with the previous two weeks. Absenteeism levels have increased in elementary schools since mid-October. In recent days, Public Health received a report of one school with a hospitalized student, and another school with several possible cases of pneumonia. These reports are being investigated further. During the current week, one pre-school with high levels of absenteeism elected to close for administrative reasons and will re-open early next week.

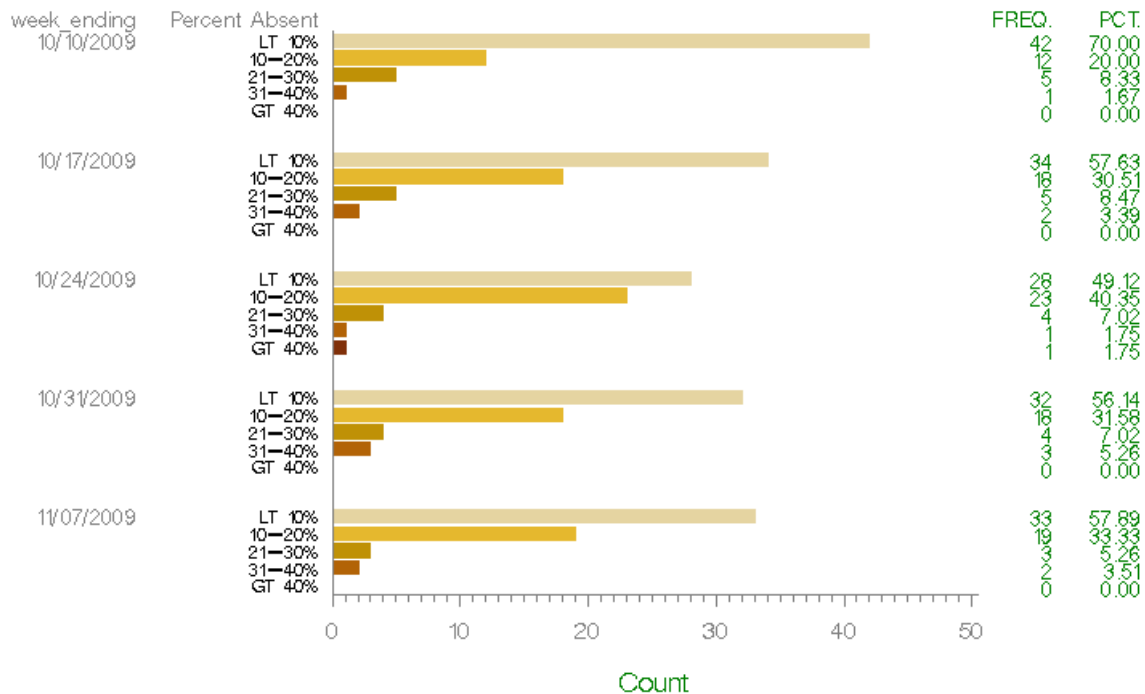


Distribution of Absenteeism by Grade Level
Middle Schools



ALL, Last Updated Nov 5, 2009

Distribution of Absenteeism by Grade Level
High Schools



ALL, Last Updated Nov 5, 2009

H1N1 VACCINE

Manufacturing delays in the production of H1N1 vaccine have led to a significant decrease in the number of doses currently available nationwide.

To date, King County has received approximately 142,000 doses of vaccine. A new allocation of approximately 71,000 doses is being ordered for delivery to King County. Vaccine is exclusively for individuals in the priority groups. These individuals are encouraged to check with their healthcare provider to receive the H1N1 vaccine.

Additional detailed information about the status of H1N1 vaccine in King County

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/pandemicflu/swineflu/distribution.aspx>

In addition to continuing to provide doses to health care providers that have ordered them, this week, 15,000 doses of H1N1 vaccine have been sent to 44 pharmacies in King County to provide another option for individuals in the priority groups to access vaccine.

Pharmacy vaccination details

People eligible to receive vaccine through pharmacies include:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- People between the ages of 6 months and 24 years old
- People between 25 through 64 years of age with chronic health conditions or weakened immune systems
- Healthcare and emergency workers with direct patient contact

The amount of H1N1 vaccine at pharmacies will be limited, with each pharmacy receiving a few hundred doses each. Vaccine will be re-supplied to pharmacies as more becomes available over the coming weeks, so people should regularly check Public Health's website for updates.

Many pharmacies are unable to vaccinate babies and young children because their staff is not licensed and/or trained for these age groups. Residents trying to vaccinate children should check with pharmacies directly and with their health care providers since vaccine is continuing to arrive.

Pharmacies may charge a fee for administering the vaccine, typically between \$12 and \$22 (not to exceed \$22). This fee is covered by most health insurance. People should bring their health insurance information to the pharmacy, and they may need to submit a receipt to their insurance company for reimbursement.

More information about vaccination options at pharmacies is available at

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/preparedness/pandemicflu/swineflu/pharmacies.aspx>

MEDICAL RESOURCES

The Washington State Department of Health has received a shipment of N95 respirators from the Strategic National Stockpile. They are in the process of breaking down the shipment and allocating portions to local health jurisdictions statewide for dissemination locally. The State DOH has advised Public Health that the sizes and quantities of masks are unknown at this point, but the State warehouse is taking inventory of the shipment and will release those numbers in the next week.

Public Health-Seattle & King County is finalizing the allocation strategy for PPE received from the Strategic National Stockpile.

PUBLIC HEALTH FLU HOTLINE

The Public Health Flu Hotline is open and staffed with general operators and nurses to answer questions on general health and safety questions about H1N1 influenza, including home care, vaccine safety, and preventative tips. The Hotline also provides medical advice and triage from nurses. Beginning this weekend, the hotline will offer extended nurse line service available 24 hours daily for people with flu seeking medical advice. General operators are available Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. When no general operators are available, callers can listen to recorded information in English and Spanish, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Hotline continues to receive close to 1000 calls per day. The Flu Hotline number is 1-877-903-KING (5464).

CURRENT GREEN RIVER SITUATION

Public Health continues to coordinate planning efforts with emergency management offices in the cities of Auburn, Kent, Renton, Tukwila, and King County OEM. PHSKC is working collaboratively to help residents and partners in the valley prepare for the possibility of a flood. Preparedness efforts include business continuity planning, evacuation planning, preparing for an alternate care facility or medical needs shelter, and the possibility of rescue efforts.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL AREA COMMAND – OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

H1N1 Objectives

1. Maintain situational awareness regarding flu activity in King County and impacts on the healthcare system and the broader community
2. Operate the Public Health Call Center to manage questions from providers and the public
3. Develop and disseminate messaging regarding vaccine orders and delivery for media, public and providers
4. Allocate and place orders for available formulations for H1N1 vaccine to PH, EMS, healthcare providers and pharmacies

Green River Objectives

1. Monitor Green River activities and continue with mitigation efforts
2. Identify further partner outreach activities as it relates to the Howard Hanson Dam
3. Increase call capacity for Environmental Health in PHSKC
4. Finalize public outreach communication materials

MAJOR ACTIONS

H1N1

- Ongoing influenza surveillance
- Distribution of Tamiflu[®] pediatric oral suspension
- Hosting reoccurring conference calls with regional pharmacies regarding commercial availability of Tamiflu[®] supplies
- Operating Public Health Flu Hotline with general operators and nurses to answer H1N1 influenza questions with expanded nurse line service beginning this weekend.
- Developing communication materials and addressing media inquiries regarding H1N1 vaccine delivery
- Managing allocation of available H1N1 vaccine formulations
- Developing allocation plan for PPE that will be received from Strategic National Stockpile
- Collecting and analyzing H1N1 Healthcare Report

GREEN RIVER

- Completed draft Transportation and Evacuation of Medically Fragile Plan, in collaboration with King County Metro
- Identified 5 locations for medical needs shelters; 2 primary locations, 3 back up locations
- Finalizing plans for clinic support at community shelters, to provide medical screening, over-the-counter medications and prescription writing

ESF-8 SITUATION STATUS REPORT – H1N1

Prepared by: Onora Lien, Situation Unit

Approved for Distribution:  **Date:** 11/6/2009

Area Commander: Michael Loehr